daughters lived nearly as long, Margaret living to age 79 and Jane to age 92. Although Dave lived to be 96, he was active to the last. At an age when most men would take it a little easy, Dave went into the mountains where he cut his own logs to build the biggest barn in the valley. He would ride his horse to town each day, ramrod straight, although he had trouble holding the reins, for all of his fingers had been broken while playing with the city's hardball team, and he had let them heal without setting the broken bones. When he was 87 years old, Dr. Dannenberg told him he would have to stop riding horses, so Dave bought a bicycle! He was planning to learn to fly when he died at age 96.

Dave was a little irreverent, and like Nymphus he sometimes had an "eye-opener" in the morning. Many stories are told about Dave, but a family favorite is about one particularly hard winter when nearly everyone was out of hay for their livestock. One day Dave's poor old mother told him she needed some hay, so Dave agreed to bring her a wagon load. A few days later "Grandma Jane" told him that the hay was mouldy and that her cows wouldn't eat it. "*Heck, I know that,*" Dave said, "*My cows wouldn't eat it either!*"

On June 23rd, 1911 Ab was murdered by Alvin Scruggs near Dave's Red Creek ranch. Scruggs claimed that Ab had stolen a horse from him in Wyoming. Scruggs said that he lay in wait at Red Creek until Ab and Scott, Dave's son, then only a boy, rode down a dugway to the river. Scruggs claimed that Ab reached for a gun, so he had to kill him. In court Scott later testified that Ab was unarmed and Alphonso, who arrived on the scene shortly after the murder also testified that Ab did not have a weapon. Scruggs was arrested on a complaint signed by John H., but he was released on $1,000 bond. In court Deputy Sheriff Gundmundson related that he had issued Scruggs a deputy's badge when he passed through Heber, therefore Judge Clegg ruled that there was no cause for action against Scruggs and released him.

Al Scruggs had killed five men in Wyoming before he killed Ab, but although John H. and his brothers all knew the trial was only a farce, they realized that because of the court's feelings about Ab's previous conviction at Manti and because he was "only an Indian" they could never get a conviction against Scruggs. The Salt Lake Tribune pretty well described how hopeless their case would be if appealed to a higher court. A Tribune editorial said, "*Scruggs had*

Ab Murdock killed